## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 02829 110833Z

17

**ACTION NEA-06** 

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 AF-04 NSC-07 NSCE-00 PM-03

SP-01 AID-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00

L-02 IGA-01 EB-03 OMB-01 MC-02 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01

DRC-01 /080 W

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R 110800Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6065

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

SECRETTEHRAN 2829

LIMDIS

KUWAIT PASS MUSCAT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, IR, MU, UK

SUBJ: IRANIAN MILITARY AID TO OMAN

1. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION APRIL 10, BRIT EMBOFF ARBUTHNOTT TOLD US THAT GEN AZHARI (CHIEF, SCS) HAD TOLD THEM THAT NO RPT NO GOI DECISION ON INCREASED MILITARY AID TO OMAN WOULD BE TAKEN UNTIL IRANIAN MILITARY MISSION HAD RETURNED FROM SURVEY OF SULTAN'S REQUIREMENTS. ARBUTHNOTT HAD IMPRESSION THAT MISSION CURRENTLY IN OMAN. IN ADDITION TO SQUADRON OF F-4S PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, HE SAID BRITS UNDERSTOOD FROM OMANIS THAT GOI CONSIDERING INCREASE IN NUMBER OF IRANIAN TROOPS TO SOMETHING LIKE 3000. MAAG OFFICERS HAVE HEARD THAT REGULAR INFANTRY TROOPS WOULD BE ROTATED TO OMAN SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 02829 110833Z

AS REPLACEMENTS FOR ELITE SPECIAL FORCES AND AIRBORNE UNITS WHICH

HAVE BEEN ONLY IRANIAN TROOPS ASSIGNED SO FAR. WE HAVE NO INFO TO CONFIRM BRITISH REPORT ON AIRCRAFT AND INCREASE IN NUMBER OF MEN.

- 2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, ARBUTHNOTT SAID HE THOUGHT OMANIS HAD ASKED GOI FOR SOME EQUIPMENT, BUT IRANIANS HAD DENIED REQUEST FOR UNCLEAR REASONS.
- 3. ARBUTHNOTT COMMENTED THAT BRITS HAVE NOT DECIDED HOW TO VIEW INCREASE IN IRANIAN AID. ON THE ONE HAND, IT WAS HMG WHICH FIRST ENCOURAGED SULTAN TO SEEK IRANIAN ASSISTANCE. HOWEVER, NOW BRITS HAVE MORE OPTIMISTIC VIEW OF FIGHTING AND BELIEVE REBELLION COULD BE HANDLED EFFECTIVELY IN REASONABLE PERIOD WITHOUT IRANIAN HELP. AUGMENTED IRANIAN PRESENCE WOULD OBVIOUSLY COMPLICATE SITUATION, POSSIBLE GENERATING FURTHER IRAQI-IRANIAN FRICTIONS. ASKING THAT CONVERSATION BE PROTECTED, ARBUTHNOTT NOTED THAT BRITS MUST BE CAREFUL OF IRANIANS WHO RARELY DISCUSS OMAN WITH THEM. VIRTUALLY ALL BRITISH INFO THIS SUBJECT COMES FROM OMANI SIDE. HELMS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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Subject: IRANIAN MILITARY AID TO OMAN

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, IR, MU, UK

To: STATE

Type: TE

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